



GP117-03.UT

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yang et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1648  
Serial No.: 10/001,407 )  
Filed: October 22, 2001 )  
For: Compositions and Methods for )  
Detecting Human Immunodeficiency Virus 2 )  
(HIV-2) )  
Examiner: Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D. )

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**  
**AND**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Communication mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on November 12, 2003 (Paper No. 5), please consider the following.

**An Election in Response to Restriction Requirement** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

Appl. Serial No. 10/001,407  
Response dated Jan. 7, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 12, 2003

**ELECTION IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

The Examiner has required that Applicant elect for initial prosecution an invention defined by one of the following five groups of claims:

- I. **Claims 1-24**, drawn to a composition for detecting HIV-2 nucleic acids comprising amplification primers;
- II. **Claim 25-30**, drawn to a method for detecting HIV-2 employing amplification primers;
- III. **Claims 31-42**, drawn to oligonucleotide probes;
- IV. **Claim 43-54**, drawn to a method for detecting HIV-2 employing oligonucleotide probes; and
- V. **Claims 55-56**, drawn to a kit for detecting HIV-2.

Applicant hereby elects Group V, Claims 55-56 for initial prosecution. Non-elected Claims 1-54 have been canceled from the Application by Preliminary Amendment, hereinbelow. Dependent claims that have been added by Preliminary Amendment incorporate all of the limitations of the elected claim set.